

SIMON **LOPEZ**

New Ways To Work Consultant

LOCATION

Albuquerque, New Mexico

EXPERTISE

Public Policy

Systems Change

Program Design & Implementation

Facilitation

EDUCATION

University of New Mexico
B.A., Psychology
1996

WORK EXPERIENCE

Consultant 2023–Now
Blue Yucca Advisors

Program Officer 2021-2023
W.K. Kellogg Foundation

Chief Impact Officer 2015-2021
Goodwill Southern California

Workforce & Leadership Development Director 1999-2014
UnidosUS

ABOUT ME

Simon has over 30 years of experience designing local and national economic mobility programs and policies, in collaboration with community leaders and stakeholders, to create equitable ecosystems that ensure economic opportunities for all communities. Simon currently serves as the New Mexico Asset Funders Network (AFN) Program Officer, engaging statewide and regional funders, financial institutions, and community stakeholders to facilitate learning and develop solutions that advance wealth building and economic mobility for NM families. Simon is also the Founder and Principal of Blue Yucca Advisors, a consulting firm that supports statewide New Mexico equity coalitions, strategic planning for equity-centered organizations and collaboratives, providing technical assistance to a range of economic justice initiatives.

Prior to AFN, Simon was a Program Officer with the W.K. Kellogg Foundation New Mexico team, focusing on employment equity and family economic security grants and partnerships. He managed a portfolio of $10M that supported 90 community partners and stakeholders. Simon has also served as a Policy Analyst for the New Mexico Speaker of the House of Representatives, Javier Martinez. He was formerly the Chief Impact Officer for Goodwill of Southern California, where he oversaw 60 workforce and economic development programs, and a department budget of $23 million. He served as Senior Director of Workforce and Leadership Development at the National Council of La Raza (now UnidosUS), leading national policy and advocacy efforts to design and implement more inclusive workforce systems for Latinos and workers of color.

A LIFE OF SERVICE AND GRATITUDE IS A LIFE FULFILLED.

New Ways to Work